

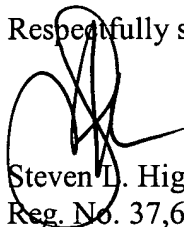
### REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct an inventor's name. The claims have been amended to delete the multiple dependent claim. The filing fee has been calculated after amendment of the claims by the preliminary amendment. No new matter is added by entry of this preliminary amendment.

It is believed that no fee is due with this communication, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed document, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Fulbright & Jaworski Deposit Account No. 50-1212/DEBE:028US.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven L. Highlander  
Reg. No. 37,642  
Attorney for Applicants

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.  
600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2400  
Austin, Texas 78701  
(512) 474-5201

Date: April 21, 2004